

Peter Brinton peterbrinton@utah.gov>

Bentonite Pits Mine (M/041/0012) - cultural resources / archaeology

Peter Brinton <peterbrinton@utah.gov>

Mon, Mar 14, 2016 at 9:12 AM

To: Jeff McClellan <jefferymcclellan@hotmail.com>, Brad Boyter
bboyter@hotmail.com>

Cc: Paul Baker <paulbaker@utah.gov>, John Blake <jblake@utah.gov>

Hi Brad & Jeff,

I heard back from SITLA after my archaeology email to you and Jerry Mansfield (SITLA).

John Blake (801-538-5152; cc'd on this email) called to let me know that much of the ~8 acre proposed expansion area on the southwest (west of the Red and North Slope pits) isn't currently leased from SITLA. John is your SITLA contact for leasing information. He said that archaeology requirements would follow leasing.

We'll continue our review of the proposed amendment to your Notice (plan), and you should hear from us within a week or so.

Peter

In reviewing Western Clay's amended Notice of Intent, I realized that I haven't seen any findings regarding archaeology or cultural resources for the 8 acre southwest expansion area, which is mostly on State lands. There is also a smaller 1 acre area of proposed disturbance.

State law requires that the state agencies take into account the affect of the Division's determinations on cultural resources, and so before the Division can approve the proposed southwest expansion of about 8 acres, we will need to hear back from SITLA, who can let us know when cultural resources have been taken into account.

Jerry, can you and your archaeologists find out what will and won't be needed to consider cultural resources for this site? Will you then let both Western Clay and me know as soon as you know? Thanks. The attached PDF maps show the approximate proposed expansion boundaries in red, and the proposed expansions are located in Section 35 of T. 21 S., R 1 W.

Thanks.

Peter

We have a good start on the review of Western Clay's recent request to amendment the existing Notice of Intention (mine permit document), but we have not yet finalized our review comments. I am working with Corey Thurston on a new reclamation cost estimate that will be the basis for an updated reclamation bond amount.

The Division required the amendment due to the existing Notice (plans) being out of date and the periodic need to re-evaluate the reclamation surety. However, you also proposed an expansion of disturbance. In talking with Corey Thurston, I understand that Western Clay's need for expansion is not immediate, but that you want to be able to expand in the relatively near future.

Considering you have an existing permit, we will focus on making sure that the Division has adequate information and bond to possibly allow approval of the proposed expansion first if the rest of the Notice

review is still in progress.

Either way, I will prioritize my review of Western Clay's permit during the rest of this week, and hopefully you will see our comments requiring additional information in the next week or so.

Let me know if you have questions. Thanks.

Peter

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Hours: 8:00am - 5:30pm

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